

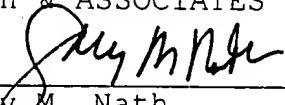
REMARKS

The claims have been amended to clarify the subject matter and remove multiple dependencies. The amendments and newly added claim do not add any new matter within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §132.

Early action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 23, 2001

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GMN/lm:24759:AMENDpreml

MARKED-UP COPY OF CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

(Amended) 15. Method according to [one of the claims 12 - 14]
claim 12, characterized in that the strand of plastic material (20) is formed by forming means comprising at least one rotatable roller (24) having a circumferential profile substantially corresponding with the desired profile of the strand of plastic material (20) applied on the edge (14) of the workpiece (16).

(Amended) 16. Method according to [one of the claims 12 - 14]
claim 12, characterized in that the strand of plastic material (20) is formed by forming means comprising several rotatable rollers (24) arranged successively, the rollers (24) having different circumferential profiles such that the rollers (24) altogether form the strand of plastic material (20) applied on the edge (14) of the workpiece (16) in the desired profile.

(Amended) 21. Plate-like workpiece, manufactured by means of an apparatus according to [one of claims 1 to 11 and/or by a method according to one of claims 12 to 20] claim 1, wherein on an edge (14) of the workpiece (16) a strand of plastic material (20)

is extruded, formed in a desired profile, and hardened, the formed strand of plastic material (20) being fixedly joint with said edge (14).

(Added) 23. Plate-like workpiece, manufactured by the method according to claim 12, wherein on an edge (14) of the workpiece (16) a strand of plastic material (20) is extruded, formed in a desired profile, and hardened, the formed strand of plastic material (20) being fixedly joint with said edge (14).

CLEAN COPY OF CLAIMS AMENDED AND ADDED:

(Amended) 15. Method according to claim 12, characterized in that the strand of plastic material (20) is formed by forming means comprising at least one rotatable roller (24) having a circumferential profile substantially corresponding with the desired profile of the strand of plastic material (20) applied on the edge (14) of the workpiece (16).

(Amended) 16. Method according to claim 12, characterized in that the strand of plastic material (20) is formed by forming means comprising several rotatable rollers (24) arranged successively, the rollers (24) having different circumferential profiles such that the rollers (24) altogether form the strand of plastic material (20) applied on the edge (14) of the workpiece (16) in the desired profile.

(Amended) 21. Plate-like workpiece, manufactured by means of an apparatus according to claim 1, wherein on an edge (14) of the workpiece (16) a strand of plastic material (20) is extruded, formed in a desired profile, and hardened, the formed strand of plastic material (20) being fixedly joint with

said edge (14).

(Added) 23. Plate-like workpiece, manufactured by the method according to claim 12, wherein on an edge (14) of the workpiece (16) a strand of plastic material (20) is extruded, formed in a desired profile, and hardened, the formed strand of plastic material (20) being fixedly joint with said edge (14).

PCT/EP00/02150
TTG Technology Transfer GmbH

82 012 t/t2
April 18, 2001

(new) Claims

1. Apparatus for applying a plastic edge strip (28) on an edge of a plate-like workpiece (16), such like a wooden board, a chip or particle board, a board of wood-like particles or the like,
characterized in that
the apparatus comprises:
 - extrusion means (18) for extruding a strand of plastic material (20) on an edge (14) of the workpiece (16); and
 - forming means (24) for forming the extruded strand of plastic material (20) in a desired profile.
12. Method for applying a plastic edge strip (28) on an edge of a plate-like workpiece (16), such like a wooden board, a chip or particle board, a board of wood-like particles or the like,
characterized in that
the method comprises the following steps:
 - extruding a strand of plastic material (20) on an edge (14) of the workpiece (16), and
 - forming the extruded strand of plastic material (20) in a desired profile.
13. Method according to claim 12, characterized in that
during the method step of extruding the strand of plastic material (20) on the edge (14) of the workpiece (16), the workpiece (16) is transported past an extrusion means for extruding the strand of plastic material (20).

extrusion means for extruding the strand of plastic material (20).

14. Method according to claim 12, characterized in that during the method step of extruding the strand of plastic material (20) on the edge (14) of the workpiece (16), the workpiece (16) is stationary held and an extrusion means for extruding the strand of plastic material (20) is moved along the edge (14) of the workpiece (16).

15. Method according to one of the claims 12 - 14, characterized in that the strand of plastic material (20) is formed by forming means comprising at least one rotatable roller (24) having a circumferential profile substantially corresponding with the desired profile of the strand of plastic material (20) applied on the edge (14) of the workpiece (16).

16. Method according to one of the claims 12 - 14, characterized in that the strand of plastic material (20) is formed by forming means comprising several rotatable rollers (24) arranged successively, the rollers (24) having different circumferential profiles such that the rollers (24) altogether form the strand of plastic material (20) applied on the edge (14) of the workpiece (16) in the desired profile.

17. Method according to claim 12, characterized in that an adhesive is applied to the edge (14) of the workpiece (16) before the strand of plastic material (20) is applied on the edge (14) of the workpiece (16).

18. Method according to claim 12, characterized in that the strand of plastic material (20) applied on the edge (14) of the workpiece (16) and formed in the desired profile is cooled by cooling means (46).
19. Method according to claim 12, characterized in that a decorative layer (48) is applied on the strand of plastic material (20) already extruded on the edge (14) of the workpiece (16).
20. Method according to claim 19, characterized in that the decorative layer is a foil (48).
21. Plate-like workpiece, manufactured by means of an apparatus according to one of claims 1 to 11 and/or by a method according to one of claims 12 to 20, wherein on an edge (14) of the workpiece (16) a strand of plastic material (20) is extruded, formed in a desired profile, and hardened, the formed strand of plastic material (20) being fixedly joint with said edge (14).